

U.S. COPYRIGHT OFFICE LEADERSHIP



Karyn Temple Claggett

Associate Register of Copyrights and Director of Policy & International Affairs

Karyn Temple Claggett is the Associate Register of Copyrights and Director of Policy and International Affairs for the United States Copyright Office (USCO). She was appointed to the position in 2012.

In her position, Claggett assists the Register with critical policy functions of the USCO, including domestic and international policy analyses, legislative support, and trade negotiations. She directs the Office of Policy and International Affairs, which represents USCO at meetings of government officials concerned with the international aspects of intellectual property protection, and provides regular support to Congress and its committees on statutory amendments and construction.

Prior to joining USCO, Claggett served as Senior Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General of the United States, where she assisted with the formulation of Department of Justice policy on sensitive legal issues, and helped manage the Department of Justice's Task Force on Intellectual Property. She also spent several years in private practice as Vice President, Litigation and Legal Affairs for the Recording Industry Association of America and at the law firm Williams & Connolly, LLP. She began her legal career as a trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Division through its Honors Program and also served as a law clerk to the Honorable Nathaniel R. Jones of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

ABOUT THE USCO

Congress created the Copyright Office in 1897 as a separate department of the Library of Congress. The Register of Copyrights serves by appointment of, and under the general direction of, the Librarian of Congress. Congress enacted the first federal Copyright Act in 1790 in accordance with Article 1, section 8 of the United States Constitution, "to promote the progress of science and the useful arts by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective discoveries."